

AEL School Council Meeting Minutes:

October 12, 2021

6:30 – 7:30 pm via Google Meet

Attendees: Helene Hewitt (Principal), Kyla Harding (Assistant Principal), Darren Wright (President), Vania Lloyd (Vice President), Jami McLaren (Secretary), Adrienne Arbuckle, Jamie Hirsch, Layla Pretzlaff, Tina Zerbeski, Val Ulliac, Christi Ross, Kari Ludwig, Chrystal Annicchiarico, Lynn Stickle,

1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:35

2. Minutes from last Meeting

Ady motions to pass September minutes. Tina seconds that motion.

All in favour, no one opposed. Motion carried.

3. What is the role of School Council? - Darren Wright

A. **Operating procedures** and communication protocol. Our current school council requires operating procedures. Our options include hiring someone (grant available from government to hire someone from ASCA) or borrow a template from another school to format our operating procedures.

Jamie suggests looking up the template on ASCA or coming up with our own procedures and using some of the courses offered by ASCA to fine tune. Jamie is willing to help without an official position.

Christi Ross also has experience with this and would be willing to help out to create our operating procedures.

Jamie and Christi agree to come up with a draft operating procedure for review at our next meeting.

B. **AEPSA and By-laws** AEPSA does require by-laws in order to operate and has them in place. After school council and AEPSA split into two separate groups the by-laws were created for AEPSA but operating procedures were not created for school council thus our need for operating procedures.

4. Parent Action Discussion:

- Our AES motto, mission statement and philosophy

A. What does our motto “success for all” mean to you and your family?

Academically, well-being, team and community mindedness, feeling welcomed and included.

How do we define success?

B. Do you feel we are reaching our mission or philosophy or are changes necessary?

5. Staff Recognition (Staff Bravo’s) - Darren Wright

Darren has suggested a monthly recognition for a staff member, on behalf of students, similar to Bison Bravos that students receive. A way to recognize our staff throughout the year in addition to the luncheon at the end of the year.

Helene suggests admin could help with the process, by adding a snippet in the school contact page. Could be an easy paper free way to have a student and parent recognize a teacher.

Can ask AEPSA for funds toward a gift card for these teacher recognitions. Will discuss in next meeting.

6. Budget & Programming 2021-2022 - Helene Hewitt

A. Enrolment

Enrolment is up 47 students from our spring projection. We have 571 students this year. Class sizes are slightly larger this year but we did receive a small amount of additional funding to address enrolment pressure.

One additional PALS teacher and additional Educational Assistant

Three Educational Assistants (one in kindergarten, one in a Grade 2 class, and one shared between Grade 3 classes)

B. Provincial Funding

Received \$127,394 from EIPS as noted above to address increased enrolment.

Our budget is currently 96.34% staffing and 3.66% supplies

We are supporting School Education Plan Goals through our budget as much as possible:

- Learning Loss - 2.5 hours/day EA time to help small groups
- First Nations, Métis & Inuit lead teacher release time
- ½ day each month for grade teams to meet and review data/interventions
- Release time for French Immersion teachers
- PD days focused on literacy/numeracy, FNMI, Mental Health
- Materials purchased to support goals (ex. Reading Eggs)

7. New Business

8. Information Reports

A. AEPSA Report - Vania Lloyd

Darren, Vania, Helene, and Kyla have met to discuss by-laws, will decide in the next meeting if any changes need to be made. Will also discuss fundraising ideas in the next meeting.

B. Playground Report - Darren Wright

Within the coming weeks Darren will reach out to Strathcona County to create budget figure for the next step of our playground expansion (outdoor learning space). Once we have that number we can decide how to proceed.

C. CPFA Report - Val Ulliac

Had first meeting last week, will be doing a number of fundraisers through HotLunch. Current grade 5 & 6 did not get to do the French field trip, however they cannot be asked to pay for the field trip but we can accept donations. Current Grade 4's will be paying the fee for this though. Grade 12 scholarship was discussed.

D. COSC Report

No attendees

E. Principles Report - Helene Hewitt

Literacy Initiative

- We use norm-referenced screeners 3 times a year to measure word reading skills, fluency and reading comprehension
- We completed the first round in the last week of September - our data shows that students are around 6-8 months ahead of where we were at this time last year!
- Our results suggest that our instructional practice is working and that we are catching up even though we are in a pandemic!
- Teachers are meeting to analyze data and develop plans to support students at all levels
- Teachers attending a virtual conference on writing through the J.P. Das Centre on Oct. 18 and then will have time to work on math in the afternoon
- Kids in Grades 1 to 3 will have access to Reading Eggs which will help develop reading skills anywhere with internet access. You should hear more about it from the classroom teacher!

Upcoming Events

- Virtual Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences next week just like last year for Grades 1 to 6. Sign up is online and it will be done through a Microsoft Teams video conference.
- Kindergarten will have interviews in November to discuss the EYE-TA assessment results
- Halloween will take place as usual with costumes - we will attempt a virtual parade once again this year!

F. Christmas Concert Plan - Layla Pretzlaff

Smaller virtual concert will take place this year in place of our conventional Christmas concert. Spring musical is still a hopeful plan, however will have to be indoors due to lack of outdoor stage and equipment. Records will be pushed to the spring.

G. Trustee Report - Skip Gordon is now retired and will wait for our next meeting with a new trustee.

9. Next Meeting

A. School Council meeting November 16, 2021.

10. Adjournment

Darren motions to adjourn at 7:29. Meeting Adjourned.